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for the thermostability of the lipase. In accordance with the present investigation, it was further discovered that the substitutions at positions 114, 132 and 166 are suited for increasing the stability of the proteins. Any of the innumerable combinations of substitutions possible at each of these positions with the other 19 amino acids would be favourable for the thermostability.—

On page 10, replace the paragraph that begins on line 14 and  $q_{11}$  ends on line 18 with the following new paragraph:

-- Accordingly, the main embodiment of the present invention relates to the novel thermostable, organic solvent resistant and high pH tolerant lipase gene variants having SEQ ID No. 2 of molecular wt 19443 (See also SEQ ID No. 24 for corresponding gene sequence), SEQ ID No. 3 of molecular wt 19515 (See also SEQ ID No. 25 for corresponding gene sequence), SEQ ID No. 4 of molecular wt 19456.9 (See also SEQ ID No. 26 for corresponding gene sequence), SEQ ID No. 5 of molecular wt.19487 (See also SEQ ID No. 6 of molecular wt. 19470.9 (See also SEQ ID No. 28 for corresponding gene sequence). --

On page 10, replace the paragraph that begins on line 19 and ends on line 24 with the following new paragraph:

-- Another embodiment of the present invention relates to an expression system for novel thermostable, organic solvent resistant and high pH tolerant lipase gene variants said expression system comprising of having SEQ ID No. 2 of molecular wt 19443 (See also SEQ ID No. 24 for corresponding gene sequence), SEQ ID No. 3 of molecular wt 19515 (See also SEQ ID